



Office of the Attorney General
State of Texas

DAN MORALES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

December 12, 1997

Ms. Deborah L. McGregory
Attorney & Counselor at Law
P.O. Box 1467
Sherman, Texas 75091-1467

OR97-2743

Dear Ms. McGregory:

You ask this office to address your questions regarding the cost provisions of the Texas Open Records Act relating to documents at issue in Open Records Letter No. 97-2335 (1997). Your request was assigned ID# 111845.

The Van Alstyne Independent School District (the "district"), which you represent, received two open records requests from the same individual for certain district records. In Open Records Letter No. 97-2335 (1997), this office concluded that the district could withhold some, but not all of the requested information under sections 552.026 and 552.107 of the Government Code.

You now ask us to address your question as to whether the Open Records Act would permit the district to charge the requesting party for expenses incurred as a result of responding to the request. Section 552.261 of the Government Code provides that the cost of providing copies of public information "shall be an amount that reasonably includes all costs related to reproducing the public information, including costs of materials, labor, and overhead." The Texas General Services Commission sets rules specifying the methods and procedures for determining such costs. Gov't Code § 552.262. As we advised you in Open Records Letter No. 97-1816 (1996), you should contact the Texas General Services Commission if you have questions concerning the cost of providing copies of public information. We suggest that you contact Ms. Hadassah Schloss at the General Services Commission at (512) 475-2497.

If you have questions about this ruling, please contact our office.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Loretta R. DeHay", is written over a horizontal line.

Loretta R. DeHay
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

LRD/rho

Ref.: ID# 111845

cc: Mr. Charles D. Macklin
Macklin Design & Construction
Route 1, Box 68
Van Alstyne, Texas 75495
(w/o enclosures)